

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JERUSA 01860 070854Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
PA-02 SAA-02 SSM-05 /050 W
-----041863 070855Z /10

P R 070747Z JUL 78
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO USICA WASHDC PRIORITY
SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1282
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS JERUSALEM 1860

ICA FOR PGM/RC, NEA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN
SUBJECT: WEST BANK PRESS REACTION: MONDALE VISIT

1. IN APPARENT REFLECTION WEST BANK ATTITUDE MONDALE VISIT
WAS ISRAELI AFFAIR, EDITORIAL ATTENTION PAID VICE PRES-
IDENT'S PRESENCE ONLY QUESTIONS PURPOSES AND USEFULNESS OF
VISIT TOWARD PEACE PROCESS.

2. MODERATE AL QUDS (JULY 1) EXPLAINS WHY WEST BANK PALESTIN-
IANS DID NOT, AS WITH PREVIOUS HIGH LEVEL VISITORS, USE THE
OCCASION TO SEND A PALESTINIAN MESSAGE. NO MORE "COMPLAINING
AND EXPALINING" IN PETITIONS AND OPEN LETTERS BECAUSE THE
"CASE IS CLEAR TO ALL THOSE WHO WISH TO UNDERSTAND IT"
AND "THE MESSAGE DID NOT REACH (PREVIOUSLY) THE
EARS OF THOSE RESPONSIBLE."

3. AL QUDS VIEWS CONTRIBUTION OF THE TRIP TO PEACE PROCESS
AS "WITHOUT HOPE..." "THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH
MONDALE PERSONALLY; MONDALE IS ONLY A COURIER. IF THIS
LEADS TO A LONDON MEETING, EVEN THAT WILL NOT LEAD TO ANY-
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THING UNLESS THE U.S. CHANGES POLICY FIRST."

4. INDEPENDENT ASH'AB (JUNE 30) ALSO DOUBTS THE
USEFULNESS OF THE VISIT SAYING "IT WILL NOT
LEAD TO A BREAKTHROUGH" IN ISRAELI POSITION. THE PAPER ADDS
IN COMMENTARY ON JULY 2 "SOME PALESTINIAN WORDS TO MONDALE,"
REMINDING THE AMRICAN VISITOR "THE HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN

LED BY PRESIDENT CARTER IS NO LUXURY ADORNING AMERICAN POLICY. IT IS A JUST HUMANITARIAN AND INTERNATIONAL CAUSE WHICH ALL FREE MEN MUST PROTECT. NO HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEM HAS BEEN MORE ABUSED THAN THE PALESTINIAN CASE." THE PAPER CALLS FOR A SOLUTION BASED ON THREE POINTS: ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM THE TERRITORIES, GRANTING PALESTINIANS THE "INALIENABLE RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION" AND RECOGNITION OF THE PLO AS REPRESENTING THE PALESTINIANS.

5. STRAIGHT NEWS COVERAGE BASED ON LOCAL REPORTING AND WIRE SERVICES OF THE VISIT WAS MORE EXTENSIVE, BUT YIELDED PROMINENCE TO STATE DEPARTMENT CONDEMNATION OF THE PLO (JUNE 30) AND SENTENCING OF A LOCAL MAYOR BY THE MILITARY COURT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, VICE PRESIDENT, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978JERUSA01860
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780278-1154
Format: TEL
From: JERUSALEM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780787/aaaacuyu.tel
Line Count: 78
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5462e779-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2090246
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WEST BANK PRESS REACTION: MONDALE VISIT
TAGS: SOPN, OVIP, (MONDALE, WALTER F)
To: ICA STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5462e779-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014